

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are currently pending in the above-identified application. Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's indication that claims 1-8 are allowable over the prior art.

Double Patenting Rejections

Claims 1, 2, and 4-8 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 5, and 63 of U.S. Patent No. 6,183,248 in view of Martz (U.S. Patent No. 4,793,803, herein after referred to as "Martz").

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1 and 5 of U.S. Patent No. 6,183,248 in view of Bergersen (U.S. Patent No. 4,330,272, herein after referred to as "Bergersen").

A terminal disclaimer is being filed concurrently with this response to disclaim U.S. Patent No. 6,183,248. Applicants therefore request withdrawal of the double patenting rejections based on U.S. Patent No. 6,183,248.

Claims 1, 2, and 4-8 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,390,812 in view of Martz.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,390,812 in view of Bergersen.

A terminal disclaimer is being filed concurrently with this response to disclaim U.S. Patent No. 6,390,812. Applicants therefore request withdrawal of the double patenting rejections based on U.S. Patent No. 6,390,812.

Claims 1, 2, and 4-8 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,485,298 in view of Martz.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,485,298 in view of Bergersen.

Appl. No. 10/799,432
Amdt. dated April 17, 2006
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 3732

PATENT

A terminal disclaimer is being filed concurrently with this response to disclaim U.S. Patent No. 6,485,298. Applicants therefore request withdrawal of the double patenting rejections based on U.S. Patent No. 6,485,298.

Claims 1, 2, and 4-8 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,705,861 in view of Martz.

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,705,861 in view of Bergersen.

A terminal disclaimer is being filed concurrently with this response to disclaim U.S. Patent No. 6,705,861. Applicants therefore request withdrawal of the double patenting rejections based on U.S. Patent No. 6,705,861.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 206-467-9600.

Respectfully submitted,

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